

Contact Information

Jim Culotta
Town Administrator
1293 Washington Avenue
Cedarburg, WI 53012
jculotta@town.cedarburg.wi.us
www.town.cedarburg.wi.us
262-377-4509

Town Board of Supervisors

Dave Valentine, Chairman Wayne Pipkorn, Seat 1 David Salvaggio, Seat 2 Gary Wickert, Seat 3 Joe Rintelman, Seat 4

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Board Approves Tax Rate Cut in 2016 Budget

On December 2nd, the Cedarburg Town Board approved a \$3.25 million all-funds budget for fiscal year 2016. And for a record 9th consecutive year, the Board adopted a property tax levy that either froze or cut the tax rate. Most importantly, the budget enables the Town to continue to provide high quality services.

The 2016 budget consists of five distinct funds. The largest of these funds is the general fund at \$2,471,405. The budget is primarily funded by a property tax levy of \$1,926,156, an increase of \$16,741. The levy increase is directly attributed to the rise in assessed value from new construction. The Town had the third largest percent increase in net new construction in Ozaukee County this year, marking the third consecutive year the Town was in the top three. The approved tax rate is \$2.321913 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The current rate was slightly higher at \$2.32388 per \$1,000 of assessed value. A home assessed for \$300,000 will pay \$697 in property taxes to the Town.

"The combination of new growth and responsible financial planning has enabled us to avoid raising the tax rate over the last nine years," stated Chairman Dave Valentine. "I appreciate the hard work of the Finance Committee and Town staff in accomplishing our goal."

Despite the tax rate cut, the budget allows for a greater investment in Town roads. Road reconstruction will increase by 12% to \$223,500 in 2016. The annual pavement maintenance program will include repaving Horns Corners Road from Bridge Street south 2,500 feet and Douglas Lane from Western Avenue south 1,500 feet. Other road maintenance efforts, such as crack filling will also receive funding.

The Board also adopted a five-year capital improvement plan that identifies future infrastructure and equipment needs. Anticipated expenditures in the 2016-2020 plan total more than \$1.9 million. In 2016, approximately \$519,000 in capital improvements is budgeted, including a new 5-yard dump truck (\$190,800), mini-excavator (\$95,000), and an ice pretreatment sprayer (\$11,000).

Additional information on the 2016 budget and capital improvement plan is available at http://www.town.cedarburg.wi.us/cedarburg-egovernment.cfm?id=39

Town of Cedarburg, Wisconsin

The Town of Cedarburg, which is home to Wisconsin's last <u>covered bridge</u>, strives to maintain its rural charm and high-quality of life while balancing growth and progress. The Town is located in Ozaukee County, which was ranked <u>the 2nd Best Place to Raise a Family</u> by Forbes.com. For more information, visit <u>www.town.cedarburg.wi.us</u>